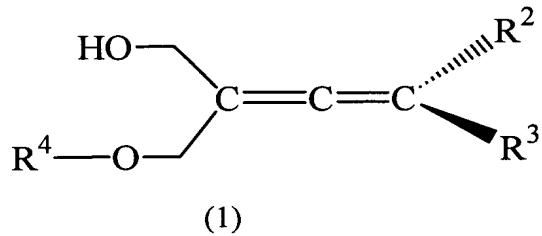


**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

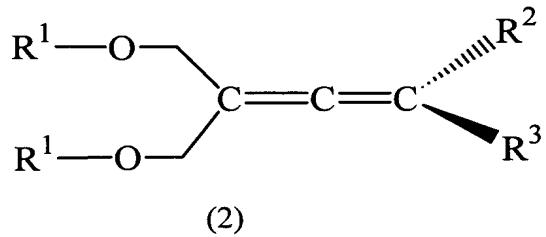
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Original) A process for producing an optically active allene represented by formula (1):



wherein R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are different and each represents a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted C<sub>1-20</sub> alkyl group or an optionally substituted C<sub>6-20</sub> aryl group, and R<sup>4</sup> represents an acyl group, which comprises reacting an allene derivative represented by formula (2):

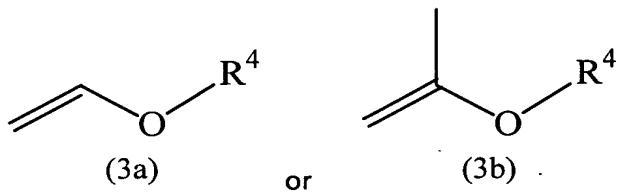


wherein R<sup>1</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted acyl group and R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> have the same meaning as defined above, with an acylating agent having an acyl group represented by R<sup>4</sup> when both R<sup>1</sup>'s are each a hydrogen atom or with water when both R<sup>1</sup>'s are each an acyl group represented by R<sup>4</sup>, in the presence of an enzyme catalyst.

2. (Original) The process for producing an optically active allene according to claim 1, wherein the enzyme catalyst is a lipase enzyme or an esterase enzyme.

3. **(Original)** The process for producing an optically active allene according to claim 2, wherein the enzyme catalyst is at least one member selected from the group consisting of *Candida Antarctica* lipase, *Pseudomonas fluorescens* lipase, *Pseudomonas cepacia* lipase, porcine pancreatic lipase, porcine liver esterase and *Candida rugosa* lipase.

4. **(Currently Amended)** The process for producing an optically active allene according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, wherein the acylating agent is a compound represented by:



wherein R<sup>4</sup> represents an acyl group.

5. **(Currently Amended)** The process for producing an optically active allene according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, wherein R<sup>1</sup> is a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted C<sub>1-20</sub> alkylcarbonyl group or an optionally substituted C<sub>6-20</sub> arylcarbonyl group.

6. **(Currently Amended)** The process for producing an optically active allene according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, wherein R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are different and each represents a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted C<sub>1-10</sub> alkyl group or an optionally substituted C<sub>6-10</sub> aryl group.

7. **(Currently Amended)** The process for producing an optically active allene according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, wherein R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are different and each represents a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl group or an optionally substituted C<sub>6-8</sub> aryl group.

8. **(Currently Amended)** The process for producing an optically active allene according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1, wherein R<sup>4</sup> is an acetyl group, a butyryl group or a benzoyl group.